OMB Number: 2030-0020 Expiration Date: 06/30/2024

# Preaward Compliance Review Report for All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance

Note: Read Instructions before completing form.

I. A.	Applican	t/Recipient (Name, Add	ress, City, State	e, Zip Code)				
	Name:	Youth Ministries	for Peace and	d Justice, Inc	,			
	Address:	1384 Stratford Ave	enue					
	City:	Bronx						
	State:	NY: New York				Zip Code: 10472-1604	1	
						<b>L</b>		
В.	DUNS N	9431601480000						
11.	Is the ap	plicant currently receiv	ing EPA Assist	ance? X Yes	∐ No			
Ш.						ant/recipient that allege laints not covered by 40		
N/A		, , ,				,		······································
IV.	discrimi		olor, national o	rigin, sex, age, or	disability and enclos	ant/recipient within the l se a copy of all decisions C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7.)		
N/A								
V.	of the re					gency within the last two describe any corrective		close a copy
N/A								
VI.	Is the ap	plicant requesting EPA	٦		? If no, proceed to V	ll; if yes, answer (a) and	or (b) below.	
			」Yes 	No No				
a.		nt is for new constructi le to and usable by pers				lities be designed and c oceed to VI(b).	onstructed to t	e readily
			Yes	No				
b		int is for new constructi ns with disabilities, exp				ilities will not be readily es.	accessible to	and usable
VII.		applicant/recipient pro color, national origin, se		•			X Yes	No
a	. Do the m	ethods of notice accom	modate those	with impaired visi	on or hearing?		X Yes	No
b		tice posted in a promin ities, in appropriate per				education programs	X Yes	No
C	. Does the	notice identify a design	nated civil right	s coordinator?			X Yes	No
VIII.		applicant/recipient mai of the population it se			ace, color, national o	rigin, sex, age, or	X Yes	No
IX.		applicant/recipient hav nglish proficiency? (40			g access to services	for persons with	X Yes	No

X.		activity, or has 15 or more employees, has it designated ar Provide the name, title, position, mailing address, e-mail ad	
N/A			
XI.		activity, or has 15 or more employees, has it adopted griev nat allege a violation of 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7? Provide a l	
N/A			
		For the Applicant/Recipient	
kno		rm and all attachments thereto are true, accurate and complete unishable by fine or imprisonment or both under applicable law. ulations.	
Α.	Signature of Authorized Official	B. Title of Authorized Official	C. Date
Da	vid R Shuffler	Executive Director	03/25/2022
	ŀ	For the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
coi	mpliance information required by 40 C.F.R. Part	oplicant/recipient and hereby certify that the applicant/recipient had 5 and 7; that based on the information submitted, this applicate applicant has given assurance that it will fully comply with all a	tion satisfies the preaward
A.	*Signature of Authorized EPA Official	B. Title of Authorized Official	C. Date

#### \* See Instructions

Instructions for EPA FORM 4700-4 (Rev. 06/2014)

General. Recipients of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency must comply with the following statutes and regulations.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 provides that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. The Act goes on to explain that the statute shall not be construed to authorize action with respect to any employment practice of any employer, employment agency, or labor organization (except where the primary objective of the Federal financial assistance is to provide employment). Section 13 of the 1972 Amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act provides that no person in the United States shall on the ground of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. Employment discrimination on the basis of sex is prohibited in all such programs or activities. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides that no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall solely by reason of disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination on the basis of disability is prohibited in all such programs or activities. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 provides that no person on the basis of age shall be excluded from participation under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is not covered. Age discrimination in employment is prohibited by the Age Discrimination in Employment Act administered by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 provides that no person in the United States on the basis of sex shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination on the basis of sex is prohibited in all such education programs or activities. Note: an education program or activity is not limited to only those conducted by a formal institution. 40 C.F.R. Part 5 implements Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. 40 C.F.R. Part 7 implements Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 13 of the 1972 Amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Executive Order 13166 (E.O. 13166) entitled; "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency" requires Federal agencies work to ensure that recipients of Federal financial assistance provide meaningful access to their LEP applicants and beneficiaries.

Items "Applicant" means any entity that files an application or unsolicited proposal or otherwise requests EPA assistance. 40 C.F.R. §§ 5.105, 7.25. "Recipient" means any entity, other than applicant, which will actually receive EPA assistance. 40 C.F.R. §§ 5.105, 7.25. "Civil rights lawsuits and administrative complaints" means any lawsuit or administrative complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability pending or decided against the applicant and/or entity which actually benefits from the grant, but excluding employment complaints not covered by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7. For example, if a city is the named applicant but the grant will actually benefit the Department of Sewage, civil rights lawsuits involving both the city and the Department of Sewage should be listed. "Civil rights compliance review" means any review assessing the applicant's and/or recipient's compliance with laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Submit this form with the original and required copies of applications, requests for extensions, requests for increase of funds, etc. Updates of information are all that are required after the initial application submission. If any item is not relevant to the project for which assistance is requested, write "NA" for "Not Applicable." In the event applicant is uncertain about how to answer any questions, EPA program officials should be contacted for clarification. \* Note: Signature appears in the Approval Section of the EPA Comprehensive Administrative Review For Grants/Cooperative Agreements & Continuation/Supplemental Awards form.

* Mandatory Other Attachment File	ename:	1235-Qual	ity Assu	ırance	Statement.pdf
Add Mandatory Other Attachment	Delete	Mandatory (	Other Attac	hment	View Mandatory Other Attachment

To add more "Other Attachment" attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Other Attachment Delete Optional Other Attachment View Optional Other Attachment

### **BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**

OMB Number: 4040-0006 Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

#### **SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY**

Grant Program Function or	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance	Estimated Unob	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget			
Activity	Number	Federal	Non-Federal	Federal	Non-Federal	Total		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)		
1. EPA Air Quality Monitoring		\$	\$	\$ 500,000.00	\$	\$ 500,000.00		
2.								
3.								
4.								
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$ 500,000.00	\$	\$ 500,000.00		

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### **SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES**

6. Object Class Categories		GRANT PROGRAM,	FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY		Total
o. Object Glade Gategorics	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	EPA Air Quality Monitoring				
a. Personnel	\$ 196,000.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 196,000.00
b. Fringe Benefits	49,000.00				49,000.00
c. Travel					
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies	23,400.00				23,400.00
f. Contractual					
g. Construction					
h. Other	212,000.00				212,000.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	480,400.00				\$ 480,400.00
j. Indirect Charges	19,600.00				\$ 19,600.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 500,000.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 500,000.00
7. Program Income	\$	<b> </b>	\$	\$	\$

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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES									
(a) Grant Program			(b) Applicant	(c) State		(d) Other Sources		(e)TOTALS	
8.		\$		\$		\$		\$	
9.									
10.									
11.									
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$		\$		\$		\$	
		D -	FORECASTED CASH	NE		T		T	
40.5.1.1	Total for 1st Year	1	1st Quarter	٦	2nd Quarter	٦	3rd Quarter	ا ـ ا	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$		\$		\$_		\$	
14. Non-Federal	\$					ĻĻ			
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$	\$		\$		\$		\$	
	GET ESTIMATES OF FE	DE	RAL FUNDS NEEDED	FO					
(a) Grant Program		-	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)  (b)First (c) Second (d) Third (e) Fourth						
		1	(b)First	1 . [	(c) Second		(u) Tilliu	1 . [	(e) Fourth
16.		\$		\$		\$		\$	
17.		] ]				 		1 1	
17.						L		] [	
18.		1		<del> </del>		<del> </del>		1-	
10.				L		L		J  [	
19.		1		<del>                                     </del>		Г		† 7	
19.						L		]	
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)				\$		\$		\$	
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)									
21. Direct Charges:			22. Indirect						
					- L				
23. Remarks:	3. Remarks:								

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# **EPA KEY CONTACTS FORM**

OMB Number: 2030-0020 Expiration Date: 06/30/2024

**Authorized Representative:** Original awards and amendments will be sent to this individual for review and acceptance, unless otherwise indicated.

Name:	Drofi	x: Ms.		First Name:				RA:	ddle Name:		
<u>ivame.</u>		Name:		riist Name.	Kriscia			IAII	Suffix:		
Title	Γ								Julia.		
Title:	L		Coordinator								
Comple Stree											
Stree	l I	1384 8	Stratford A	venue							
City:	! [					State:					
	ı	Bronx	10472-1604			Country:	NY: New York				
			L			Country.	USA: UNITED Fax Number	,			
	hone Number: 718-328-5622 -mail Address: kviail@ympj.org						rax Number				
E-man /	<u> 4aare</u>	<u>88.</u>	kvigil@ymp	j.org							
Daves	to all d	-t t	-41		<b>.</b>						
Payee:	inaivi	auai ai	itnorized to a	ccept payment	is.						
Name:	Prefi	x: Mr.		First Name:	David			Mi	ddle Name:		
	Last	Name:	Shuffler						Suffix:		
Title:	Exe	cutive	Director								
Comple	te Ad	dress:									
Stree	t1:	1384 S	Stratford A	venue							
Stree	t2:										
City:		Bronx				State:	NY: New York				
Zip / I	Postal	Code:	10472-1604			Country:	USA: UNITED	STATES			
Phone I	Numb	er:	718-328-562	22			Fax Number:	<u> </u>			
E-mail /	Addre	ss:	dshuffler@y	ympj.org							
			entact: Indivi oudgeting req	· ·	nsored Prog	grams Offic	e to contact co	ncerning (	administrativ	/e matters (i.e	e., indirect cost
Name:	Prefi	x: Ms.		First Name:	Kriscia			Mi	ddle Name:		
	Last	Name:	Vigil						Suffix:		
Title:	Out	reach	Coordinator								
Comple	te Ad	dress:									
Stree	t1:	1384 \$	Stratford A	venue							
Stree	t2:										
City:		Bronx				State:	NY: New York				
Zip / I	Postal	Code:	10472-1604			Country:	USA: UNITED	STATES			
Phone l	Numb	er:	718-328-562	22			Fax Number:				
E-mail /	Addre	ss:	kvigil@ymp	j.org							

EPA Form 5700-54 (Rev 4-02)

# **EPA KEY CONTACTS FORM**

Project Manager: Individual responsible for the technical completion of the proposed work.

				γ		pananananananananananananananananananan					
Name:	Prefix: Mr.	First Name:	David		Middle Name:						
	Last Name:	Shuffler			Suffix:		]				
Title:	Executive	Director									
Comple	Complete Address:										
Stree	t1: 1384 S	tratford Avenue									
Stree	t2:										
City:	Bronx		State:	NY: New York							
Zip / I	Postal Code:	10472-1604	Coun	try: USA: UNITED STATE	S						
Phone I	Number:	718-328-5622		Fax Number:							
E-mail /	Address:	dshuffler@ympj.org									

EPA Form 5700-54 (Rev 4-02)

\* Mandatory Project Narrative File Filename: 1234-YMPJ\_EPA Project Narrative.pdf

Delete Mandatory Project Narrative File

View Mandatory Project Narrative File

To add more Project Narrative File attachments, please use the attachment buttons below.

Add Optional Project Narrative File

Control of the Contro

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 12/31/2022

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424									
* 1. Type of Submission:  Preapplication  Application  Changed/Corrected Application  * 2. Type of Application:  New  Continuation  Revision			w ntinuation vision		Revision, select appropriate letter(s): her (Specify):				
* 3. Date Received:  03/25/2022  4. Applicant Identifier:									
5a. Federal Entity Ide	entifier:			5	ib. Federal Award Identifier:				
State Use Only:	State Use Only:								
6. Date Received by	State:		7. State Application	lder	ntifier:				
8. APPLICANT INFO	ORMATION:								
* a. Legal Name:	outh Ministries	s for 1	Peace and Justi	.ce,	Inc.				
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):  13-4006535				1	c. Organizational DUNS:				
d. Address:									
* Street1: 1384 Stratford Avenue  Street2: Bronx									
County/Parish:	Bronx								
* State:	NY: New York								
Province:	1								
* Country:	USA: UNITED ST	TATES							
* Zip / Postal Code:	10472-1604								
e. Organizational U	nit:								
Department Name:					Division Name:				
f. Name and contac	t information of pe	rson to	be contacted on m	atte	rs involving this application:				
Prefix: Mr.			* First Nam	э:	David				
Middle Name: R.									
<u></u>	ffler								
Suffix: Jr.									
Title: Executive	Director								
Organizational Affiliat	tion:								
* Telephone Number:	718-328-5622				Fax Number:				
*Email: funddeve	elopment@ympj.o	rg							

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:
M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:
* Other (specify):
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:
Environmental Protection Agency
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:
66.034
CFDA Title:
Surveys, Studies, Research, Investigations, Demonstrations, and Special Purpose Activities Relating to the Clean Air Act
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:
EPA-OAR-OAQPS-22-01
* Title:
Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities
13. Competition Identification Number:
Title:
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):
Add Attachment Deede Attachment dew Attachment
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:
YMPJ Cross Bronx Expressway Air Quality Monitoring Budget
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments

Application	for Federal Assistan	ice SF-424					
16. Congress	ional Districts Of:						
* a. Applicant	15			* b. Prog	gram/Project	15	
Attach an addit	ional list of Program/Project	: Congressional Distric	ts if needed.				
			Add Attachmen				
17. Proposed	Project:						
* a. Start Date:	11/01/2022			*	b. End Date:	10/31/2024	
18. Estimated	Funding (\$):						
* a. Federal		500,000.00					
* b. Applicant		0.00					
* c. State		0.00					
* d. Local		0.00					
* e. Other		0.00					
* f. Program In	come	0.00					
* g. TOTAL		500,000.00					
* 20. Is the Ap  * 20. Is the Ap  Yes  If "Yes", provi  21. *By signir herein are trucomply with a subject me to	ertifications and assurance	ify (1) to the statemate to the best of n cept an award. I am strative penalties. (I	ents contained in aware that any fal	planation in at Delete/ the list of cert Iso provide the se, fictitious, of 8, Section 1001	tifications** e required or fraudulen	assurances** and a t statements or claim	ements gree to as may
Authorized Re	epresentative:				***************************************		
Prefix:	Mr.	* Fire	st Name: David				
Middle Name:	R.						
* Last Name:	Shuffler						
Suffix:	Jr.						
* Title:	xecutive Director						
* Telephone Nu	umber: 718-328-5622			Fax Number:			
* Email: fund	development@ympj.or	rg					
* Signature of A	Authorized Representative:	David R Shuffler		* Date Signe	ed: 03/25/20	022	

### David Shuffler, Jr.

Telephone: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Email: dshuffler@ympj.org

### SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE:

Managed an efficient funding program, which had a city-wide and a neighborhood focus. Spearheaded grant-making decisions on the board of an activist-advised community foundation. Coordinated community involved efforts to increase resources in neighborhoods throughout New York City for over ten years. Trained staff, volunteers, community members and other stake holders for eight years. Fundraised and managed relationships with foundations, banks, and public and private donors for over ten years.

### EMPLOYMENT:

### Youth Ministries For Peace and Justice, Inc.

1384 Stratford Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472

#### 7/2010-Present

Executive Director

- Manage an efficient Community Based Organization that provides direct services and community organizing.
- Maintain and cultivate new relationships with potential funding sources.
- Coordinate and advocate for city, state and federal policy reform.

### Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development

50 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004 Suite 1125

10/2005-4/2010

Director of Initiative for Neighborhood & City-Wide Organizing

- Manage an efficient funding program.
- Maintain and cultivate new relationships with potential funding sources.
- Coordinate and advocate for citywide policy reform campaigns.

#### 12/2004-9/2006

### Director of Organizing Training

- Provided multi-layered organizational capacity building assistance to over 100 not-forprofits.
- Lead New York City budgetary advocacy for HPD preservation contracts.
- Coordinated and advocated for citywide policy reform campaigns.

### New York City Environmental Justice Alliance

115 West 30th Street, New York, NY 10001 Suite 709

### 12/2003-7/2004

### Membership Coordinator

- · Coordinated participation of the seventeen member organizations.
- · Supported staff with their relevant program areas.
- Developed trainings and workshops for the member organizations.

### Youth Ministries For Peace and Justice, Inc.

1384 Stratford Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472

#### 2/2002 - 11/2003

### Police Reform Campaign Director

- Coordinated a youth-led campaign for police reform within the South Bronx.
- Built alliances with community organizations, residents, and elected officials.
- Developed weekly curricula for youth programs.
- Submitted applications and final reports to foundations.

#### 7/1999 - 1/2002

### Environmental Justice Campaign Coordinator

- Led an environmental justice campaign to revitalize the waterfront in the South Bronx.
- Coordinated ecological and educational restoration projects.
- Planned weekly curricula, developed progress reports, monitored youth programs and managed relationships with other environmental justice organizations.

#### 10/1997 - 6/1999

#### Site Coordinator

- Designed program schedules and tracked program objectives.
- Managed over one hundred members and ensured safety of program participants.

#### SPECIAL SKILLS:

Trainer/ Facilitator/ Fundraiser/ Public Speaker

Proficient with Microsoft applications.

### <u>Section 5 – Quality Assurance Statement</u>

Michael Heimbinder at HabitatMap will be responsible for QA and QC aspects of the proposed project. Heimbinder is the inventor of the AirBeam mobile air quality monitoring device and the founder of HabitatMap. He has decades of experience in air quality monitoring, public education around the environment, and community organizing. Heimbinder has led and/or participated in several air quality monitoring projects in the South Bronx, and he has worked closely with YMPJ on previous projects.

The QA and QC plan will reflect the unique capabilities of the AirBeam air quality monitoring device. The device can be used as a stationary or mobile air quality monitor to accurately measure PM 1, 2.5, and 10 exposure. In mobile mode, the device sends readings every second to the AirBeam Android or iOS application on the user's linked mobile device. In stationary mode, the AirBeam sends readings every minute to the AirCasting central database and website. The device is equipped with a clock, GPS, and SD card so that it can accurately record location and time of day and so it can be used without direct connection to either the mobile app or the central database. HabitatMap has extensive experience collecting, verifying, and analyzing data from both mobile and stationary AirBeam devices.

Together with YMPJ, HabitatMap will develop air quality monitoring protocols using AirBeam devices. The project team will develop mobile data collection protocols that follow popular community walking corridors and corridors used by vulnerable residents (such as walking routes to primary schools). Protocols regarding sampling methodology, such as date, time of day, and replication, will be determined following baseline research and analysis of previous air quality data.

The project team will assess data quality according to established and successful criteria that HabitatMap has been using for over 10 years. Given HabitatMap's history of work in the proposed project site, there is ample historic data to offer baselines, quality comparisons, and the ability to assess equipment functionality.



### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice (YMPJ) is to rebuild the neighborhoods of Bronx River and Soundview/Bruckner Boulevard in the South Bronx by preparing community members to become prophetic voices for peace and justice. We accomplish this through political education, spiritual formation, youth development, and community development and organizing. YMPJ's mission includes providing assistance to low-income immigrant communities in need of legal and social services to assist them with obtaining citizenship and becoming self-sufficient members of the Bronx community, in addition to organizing the community to act in ways that benefit their interests. YMPJ currently offers direct services to our community for individuals and families seeking entitlement benefits and/or immigration-related services. We also offer programming and run campaigns that tie into all aspects of our mission and goals.



March 15, 2022

Environmental Protection Agency [Mail Code 2201A] 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express HabitatMap's commitment to partner with Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice (YMPJ) on their project proposal to the EPA Air Quality Monitoring competitive grant. HabitatMap is an environmental technology non-profit building open source, free, and low-cost environmental monitoring and data visualization solutions. Our tools empower organizations and community scientists to measure pollution and advocate for equitable solutions to environmental health issues. We focus on low-income communities and communities of color living with disproportionate environmental burdens. If YMPJ is awarded an EPA Air Quality Monitoring Grant, HabitatMap will collaborate with YMPJ to train intergenerational community members and community leaders to use Habitat Map's Air Beams to monitor the air quality along the South Bronx Expressway before, during, and after the anticipated redesign of the Expressway. Habitat Map will also present air quality information to the general public at two air quality Symposiums scheduled during the project period.

YMPJ has made a significant impact in the South Bronx and has a deep history of gathering data to influence both policy and on-the-ground environmental justice conditions for South Bronx residents. We know that YMPJ is uniquely positioned to execute an effective community-led air quality monitoring program with a critical focus on changing South Bronx air quality conditions and having the data to support a Cross Bronx Expressway redesign. YMPJ is a grassroots organization committed to providing deeply needed environmental justice education and training to South Bronx residents and YMPJ has proven capable of developing and leading coalitions of stakeholders in pursuit of community mobilization and

enhancement. YMPJ's catchment area encompasses high-poverty neighborhoods that are deeply impacted by environmental injustices.

We have full confidence that in the hands of David Shuffler and his team, YMPJ will execute a highly impactful program. Please feel free to reach out with any questions via email, mheimbinder@habitatmap.org, or phone, 347-410-9499.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Heimbinder

Executive Director, HabitatMap

Project Title: YMPJ Cross Bronx Expressway Air Quality Monitoring Budget

### **Applicant Information:**

Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, Inc. 1384 Stratford Avenue Bronx, NY 10472-1604

**Primary Contact Name, Phone & Email** David R. Shuffler Jr., 718-328-5622, funddevelopment@ympj.org **DUNS Number** 943160148

Set-Aside: Community-based organization set-aside++

++YMPJ operates in the South Bronx communities of Bronx River and Soundview/Bruckner, some of the most impoverished neighborhoods in Congressional District 15. Our community is 59% Latino, 31% African American, 6% Asian, 3% White, and 2% Other residents. 29% of residents subsist below the poverty level, one in seven residents are unemployed, and 54% of residents spend more than 30% of their income on rent. Due to decades of environmental racism, housing discrimination, inadequate access to healthcare, our residents have disproportionately high rates of respiratory disease, heart disease, and other chronic conditions. While our residents suffer, they are also committed to overcoming these challenges and building a stronger, more vibrant community.

**Brief Description of Applicant Organization:** Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, Inc. (YMPJ)'s mission is to transform blighted South Bronx neighborhoods and change the systems that negatively impact them. As a key grassroots community based organization serving the Bronx River and Soundview neighborhoods, YMPJ prepares residents to lead community-driven development campaigns and initiatives that prioritize environmental justice, economic opportunity, and fundamental change within the systems of oppression.

Project Partner: HabitatMap, Michael Heimbinder, Executive Director, HabitatMap

**Project Location:** Project activities will take place in the Bronx, New York City, specifically along the Cross Bronx Expressway. This includes the neighborhoods of Parkchester/Castle Hill, Jerome/Washington Heights, Hunts Point, West Bronx, and Bronx River/Soundview.

Air Pollutant Scope: particulate matter (PM1, PM2.5, and PM10) air quality data

**Budget Summary:** 

EPA Funding Requested	Total Project Cost
500,000	500,000

**Project Period:** 

**Start Date:** 11/1/2022 **End Date:** 10/31/2024

**Short Project Description:** YMPJ will partner with HabitatMap, South Bronx/New York City Community Based Organizations (CBO's), and Community Leaders to collect particulate matter (PM1, PM2.5, and PM10) air quality data in the vicinity of the Cross Bronx Expressway. This data along with advocacy and environmental justice trainings, community meetings, and events will support the redevelopment of the Expressway so that it benefits the South Bronx community.

### Section 1 - Project Summary and Approach

A. Overall Project: YMPJ will partner with Habitat Map and four South Bronx Community Based Organizations (CBO's) to collect particulate matter (PM1, PM2.5, and PM10) air quality data in the vicinity of the Cross Bronx Expressway. The South Bronx community has long rallied around the need to redesign the Expressway, which is an extensive source of airborne pollutants because 18-wheel tractor-trailers use it to access the Hunts Point Food Distribution Center. The Federal Government has allocated \$7.5 Billion in RAISE grants to fund a redesign study for the Expressway. The redesign would likely involve adding a deck on top of below-grade sections of the expressway, with filtered vents to scrub exhaust. Additional elements may include adding green space and noise barriers for sections that are not below grade. An additional \$5 Billion of funding for the project is allocated in the Build Back Better bill. Air quality data before construction, during construction, and after construction is needed to influence the redesign process, as well as to make the case for the necessity of highway redesigns in EJ communities nationwide. YMPJ will work with project partners to train Community Leaders in air quality monitoring, collection, and analysis of results throughout this grant period and into the future, as the Department of Transportation (NYDOT) continues to study and eventually redesign the Expressway. Central to this project is also building out community engagement and advocacy around the Cross Bronx Redesign, ensuring the community's voice is heard and incorporated throughout the process.

Project Activities: Our first task will be to hire the Project Manager and Project Assistant responsible for organizing and executing the project. YMPJ will use its extensive network, including connections with universities such as Fordham, NYU, and Pratt to aid in identifying the most qualified applicants. The Project Manager and Project Assistant will assemble air quality monitoring teams for each corridor of the Cross Bronx Expressway, with the help of partner CBO's in identified South Bronx catchment areas, including Parkchester/Castle Hill, Jerome/Washington Heights, Hunts Point, and West Bronx, in addition to YMPJ's own catchment of Bronx River/Soundview. YMPJ will issue an open call for CBO partners who will be selected through a panel review process led by a Steering Committee made up of at least 2 local YMPJ young adults who have taken part in the YMPJ air quality data collection projects in the past, a Science Department staff member from our local High School (Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School), and one staff member from our project partner HabitatMap. This process will allow us to select the organizations with the greatest potential to effectively implement and continue community-led air quality monitoring for the length of time needed to achieve meaningful results (5-10 years). YMPJ has longstanding partnerships and relationships with many South Bronx organizations who we expect to apply for the opportunity, including Love in the Bronx, The Point, New Settlement, and the Bronx River Alliance. YMPJ will conduct targeted outreach to organizations we feel are ideal candidates and encourage them to apply. Once the full cohort of partner CBOs is assembled, each will identify four Community Leaders in their catchment to receive deep training to collect and analyze air quality data.

Central to this project is building community capacity to continue air quality monitoring and environmental advocacy beyond the life of the project. Therefore, training for Community Leaders will be comprehensive and ongoing throughout the project period. HabitatMap and YMPJ will train Leaders in air quality and how it influences daily life and health outcomes in the South Bronx. HabitatMap will train the Community Leaders to use AirBeam technology, including how, when, and how frequently to collect data, how to download data to the information system, and how to troubleshoot the technology should problems arise. Following this training, Community Leaders will begin collecting air quality data along predetermined routes of 45 mins to 1 hour that are traversed 3 times per week at predetermined times in their catchment area. YMPJ Project staff will ensure that data is collected on a regular basis and will work with CBO's to identify solutions if Community Leaders need assistance. HabitatMap will also provide Community Leaders with at least two additional workshops. One of those will be a hands-on event where Leaders identify pollution sources in their neighborhoods and learn about the pollutants emitted from those sources. The second will use the list of pollution sources to identify the best stationary location for air quality monitoring throughout the Expressway Redesign Process. YMPJ's Project Manager and Project Assistant will support the Community Leaders through installation of this stationary monitor and will be responsible for collecting the data from the device.

The final project activity will focus on the civic processes around the Cross Bronx Expressway Redesign. YMPJ's Project Manager and Project Assistant will maintain contacts with staff at the NYDOT, ensuring that YMPJ and the other CBO's involved are identified as trusted partners with a sincere commitment to the redesign for the benefit of the South Bronx community. YMPJ Project Staff will update Community Leaders on the redesign process, encouraging and providing the means for the Leaders to attend project visioning sessions and community meetings. YMPJ staff will ensure that the voice of South Bronx residents are heard on issues related to the Expressway by sharing information with community residents as a whole through social media and regularly scheduled meetings and programming (e.g. monthly Neighborhood Coalition stakeholder meetings, Know Your Rights and Immigration Workshops, Presentations and Tabling at Saturday Soup Kitchen Meals, and public programming at local parks). Project partners will also leverage their own networks to accomplish the most effective community outreach and education related to project activities.

B. Project Significance: This project will gather and analyze air quality data and support community engagement in order to combat hazardous air conditions in the South Bronx. The project team will collect data about the particulate matter present in the South Bronx that contributes to poor public health outcomes, including asthma and heart disease, in support of organized community campaigns to redesign the Cross Bronx Expressway, one of the largest pollution sources in the South Bronx. Project leaders and experts will train community members in air quality monitoring and results analysis, building the community capacity and investment necessary to advocate for an Expressway redesign and rebuild that reflects community needs and best serves the South Bronx. According to State and City sources, our community is 59% Latino, 31% African American, 6% Asian, 3% White, and 2% Other, with a large and growing immigrant population. 29% of residents and 50% of children reside in households below the poverty level. Our community is located between the Cross Bronx Expressway, the Bruckner Expressway, the Sheridan Expressway and the Bronx River Parkway, a 'toxic triangle' characterized by highways, industry, intense trucking activity, railway activity, and a lack of green space. Air pollutant levels in the toxic triangle are some of the highest in the nation; community exposure to diesel particulate matter is in the 95th-100th percentile, and local PM<sub>2.5.</sub> monitors maintained by YMPJ staff and volunteers showing PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels 20x higher than those reported by the nearest government-run monitor (NATA, 2014). This is especially significant as the EJ Index for PM<sub>2.5</sub> in our community, as reported by the EJSCREEN tool, is in the 87th percentile. Abysmal air quality in the South Bronx has dramatic health consequences. YMPJ's community is aptly nicknamed 'Asthma Alley.' The asthma rate is eight to twelve times higher than the national average. In some neighborhoods, it is estimated that 20% of children have asthma. Data from the NYC Dept. of Health finds that the asthma hospitalization rate for children in the Bronx is 70% higher than the rest of NYC and 700 percent higher than the rest of New York State. We also have some of the highest cancer risks correlated with air pollution in the nation (90-95th percentile) and suffer from some of the highest respiratory hazards in the nation, ranking in the 95th-100th percentile nationally in NATA.

#### Section 2 - Community Involvement

A. Community Partnerships: The partnerships created during this project will provide the data and community engagement necessary to transform the Cross Bronx Expressway from a polluting detriment to a vibrant community corridor. An essential aspect of this process is collaboration between YMPJ, other South Bronx CBOs, and the constituencies we serve. It is also essential that scientists knowledgeable about air pollutants and their impacts participate as science communicators and environmental educators. YMPJ will partner with HabitatMap and put out an open call for four partner CBO's to organize Community Leaders who will collect air quality data in their catchments. The 5 identified catchments are Parkchester/Castle Hill, Jerome/Washington Heights, Hunts Point, and West Bronx, and YMPJ's own catchment of Bronx River/Soundview. Partner CBOs will be invited to submit proposals and qualifications that show capacity to engage and lead community members through the data collection and analysis process throughout the entirety of the project period and beyond.

<u>Project Partner</u>: HabitatMap will serve as the key partnering organization, providing the air quality monitoring equipment and training and troubleshooting in usage of the equipment. HabitatMap

will also provide two training sessions for Community Leaders around environmental justice and air quality. HabitatMap, a non-profit organization that specializes in putting scientific information into the hands of the EJ communities that need it most, will be entrusted with equipping Community Leaders with the air quality monitoring equipment, the AirBeam3, teaching Community Leaders to use the equipment, providing real-time troubleshooting, and providing two training sessions during the project period for Community Leaders on air pollutants and the deleterious effects of these pollutants on human and community health. HabitatMap was launched in 2006 by Brooklyn environmental activists seeking to develop community organizing efforts around cleaning up Newtown Creek and addressing health concerns in the surrounding neighborhoods. Since that time, HabitatMap has expanded its technology platform and launched AirCasting: an open-source environmental data visualization platform. HabitatMap's palm-sized air quality instrument, the AirBeam, provides a low-cost tool that measures hyperlocal concentrations of harmful particulate matter, and in conjunction with the free to use AirCasting platform, helps CBO's, educators, academics, regulators, city managers, and community scientists map air pollution and organize for clean air. Utilizing AirBeam, HabitatMap has worked with dozens of environmental justice communities, equipping them with the technology and information necessary to support effective advocacy campaigns. This project will keep HabitatMap involved in long-term South Bronx air quality monitoring. By using HabitatMap's technology in the project, they have been guaranteed partnership through the completion of the project. YMPJ will benefit from HabitatMap's technical support, the data storage systems, and the scientific expertise necessary to truly make the case for the most equitable Cross Bronx Expressway redesign. YMPJ will continue to seek grant funding that includes HabitatMap in the project costs and as a project partner. Due to the nature of this project, the partnership must be long-term and sustained because a highway redesign takes many years to complete. HabitatMap already has a longstanding relationship with YMPJ and the two organizations share similar missions.

- **B. Community Engagement:** For this project, YMPJ will use our longstanding networks and partnerships, cultivated over 25 years of environmental work, to release our call for partner organizations who will in turn recruit community members to help design and implement our air quality monitoring work. YMPJ has worked with our lead partner HabitatMap on a number of air quality monitoring efforts that have included government agencies, local schools, and other CBO's. Over the last decade, YMPJ has partnered with the NYC Parks Department, the NYC Department of Health, Partnership for Parks, The POINT CDC, and the Bronx River Alliance to address blighted landscapes/contaminated soils along the Bronx River. YMPJ plans to make data accessible and understandable at several points throughout the proposed project. To begin, HabitatMap will host a real-time map of air quality in the South Bronx on its website. The map will be accessible online, and YMPJ will promote the site through newsletters, social media posts, community meetings, and direct communications through the Hustle app which YMPJ uses to communicate with tens of thousands of community members. In addition to the real-time map, YMPJ community members and youth leaders will help analyze the data to inform civic engagement efforts around redeveloping the Cross Bronx Expressway. We anticipate that YMPJ and its partners will use the air quality data to develop reports, communications materials, public presentations, and more.
- C. Community-Based Organization Set-Aside: YMPJ is a community-led organization with the mission to transform both the people and the physical infrastructure of blighted South Bronx neighborhoods and change the systems that negatively impact them. All of YMPJ staff and leadership are from the neighborhoods we serve: Bronx River, Soundview/Bruckner, Parkchester or similar communities in the South Bronx, and they share key lived experiences with our constituency that facilitate outreach, organizing, and coalition-building. Through quarterly public meetings, routine "Visioning Sessions," and the YMPJ Community Coalition, YMPJ assesses community needs and garners significant input from the low-income, predominantly black and brown families that make up its base. YMPJ relies on this base to implement and guide each project and also the overall strategic planning of the organization. YMPJ is a trusted CBO because of our longstanding involvement with community needs. For close to 25 years, YMPJ operated a soup kitchen and pantry that fed 125 families per week. We offer entitlement benefits

application assistance for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, SNAP, and WIC, and we estimate that YMPJ case managers have signed up over 3,000 individuals for SNAP and WIC since 2010. We also offer free immigration assistance and tax preparation services, resulting in dozens of naturalizations and greencards and over \$1 million worth of tax returns each year. Additional accomplishments include the development of several large community sites such as Concrete Plant Park and Starlight Park, the former of which is now the site of the Bronx River Foodway: a verdant and productive greenspace where environmental education and community programming take place; Take Care New York, a partnership with the NYC Department of Health through which YMPJ conducted two visioning workshops on the future of health; a 10-year partnership with New York University involving health studies and air quality monitoring; and a longstanding US EPA/BOA partnership. YMPJ has extensive experience organizing our community in pursuit of environmental and health goals. YMPJ led a coalition of community groups to rehabilitate the Bronx River, organizing the removal of dozens of cars and tires from the water and creating 33 acres of waterfront park space that is now home to the Bronx River Foodway. Recently, YMPJ was chosen as the Neighborhood Coordinator for the Mayor's Taskforce on Racial Inclusion and Equity in order to promote COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Finally, we were selected by NYC's Administration for Child Services to build and operate a one-stop Family Enrichment Center serving neighborhoods in our catchment.

Section 3 – Environmental Justice and Underserved Communities: The community we serve is not just our constituency, but our primary collaborator in all organizational activities. YMPJ regularly schedules community meetings (attended by 100-200 residents), in order to inform our constituency of planned activities, and solicit their feedback and direct involvement in all aspects of programming. Additionally, our wider air quality work trains 60 residents/year on issues related to Air Quality and increased COVID-19 transmission and negative outcomes, and these residents play an active role in engaging their neighbors in the community by presenting public programs that reach another 17,000 residents each year. YMPJ embraces a vision of leadership that invites meaningful community participation in key decisions through open meetings, resident-led committees, community events, and visioning sessions. To further engage the community, our organizational leadership structure is deeply intertwined with our membership structure. From our base, we actively develop leaders who will build on and continue our legacy. As members become more involved, they can take on greater responsibility within our campaigns and initiatives, becoming paid Community Organizers and ultimately serving on our Leadership Committee. In the project proposed here, community residents play a key role in developing and implementing all activities, and are active participants in decision-making processes.

YMPJ has a long history of promoting environmental justice in the South Bronx through projects that effectively address disproportionate health impacts from pollution. As a leading partner of The Sheridan Alliance, YMPJ was instrumental in the 20-year campaign to allocate \$1.8 billion to the redevelopment of the Sheridan Expressway, reducing the amount of truck traffic in the neighborhood and providing direct community access to previously inaccessible waterfront parks. The Sheridan Expressway is a highway constructed in 1963 to connect Bruckner Expressway (I-278) and the New England Throughway (1-95), allowing easy access from the Hunts Point Food Distribution Center - the largest such center in the country - to the interstate highway network. However, the Expressway cut through four diverse, vibrant communities in the South Bronx, causing a significant population decline in the area, creating intense pollution, inviting even more polluting industry to the area, and completely disconnecting the Bronx River and two parks from surrounding neighborhoods. From 2010 to 2016, YMPJ and the Alliance continued to advocate for state and local legislatures including Bronx Borough President, State Assemblymen and State Senators to allocate funding for an Environmental Impact Study of the project and to ultimately pass funding for the transformation of the Expressway. Finally in 2016, New York State announced the allocation of \$97 Million in state funds to begin the process of decommissioning the Sheridan Expressway and turning it into the surface level boulevard that was promised to the community. In 2019, the conversion of the Sheridan Expressway into a pedestrian boulevard was finally completed. The boulevard links the previously disconnected neighborhoods of Crotona Park, West Farms, and Soundview. It features a two-way bike lane that provides connectivity to

Starlight Park and the Bronx River Greenway and addresses pedestrian safety through the addition of three new crosswalks. As described above, additional funding has now been allocated to study the Cross Bronx Expressway, which has plagued the community for many years. This project will study the air quality in our catchment area and generate and maintain qualitative data surrounding air pollution in the vicinity of the Cross Bronx. For the Sheridan, we collected air quality data prior to its conversion to a surface-level boulevard and continued to collect data after the conversion. YMPJ will do the same for the Cross Bronx Expressway to facilitate effective advocacy for a redesign of the harmful and polluting roadway. This data is needed to make the case for further transportation policy reform in the interest of EJ community public health.

### <u>Section 4 – Environmental Results—Outcomes, Outputs and Performance Measures</u>

A. Expected Project Outputs and Outcomes: YMPJ's expected outputs, activities, and outcomes for this project are directly aligned with EPA's focused objectives for this funding: 1) utilizing our existing air quality monitoring capacity and expertise to address vital issues in our community, 2) expanding community engagement and community-led air quality monitoring, and 3) building a foundation to support ongoing community-led air quality work to ensure sustainable solutions to air pollution and the resulting detriments to the South Bronx community. Furthermore, our outputs and outcomes support EPA's Draft Strategic Plan, Objective 4.1, focused on improving air quality and reducing localized pollution and health impacts. In particular, our work supports the long-term performance measure under this objective to ensure all people with low socio-economic status (SES) live in areas where the air quality meets the current fine particle pollution (PM2.5) National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Outputs	Activities	Outcomes
Output 1: Assemble community-led air quality monitoring teams in 5 pre-identified catchment areas along the Cross Bronx Expressway in the South Bronx.	YMPJ will assemble a 5-person steering committee to lead the development of community based teams that will be responsible for the collection of air quality data. This steering committee will be responsible for putting out a call for South Bronx CBO's in identified catchment areas along the Cross Bronx Expressway with the capacity to coordinate Community Leaders to collect and analyze air quality data. One project partner will be chosen to work on data collection in each pre-identified catchment area, Parkchester/Castle Hill, Jerome/Washington Heights, Hunts Point, and West Bronx. YMPJ will lead community-led collection of data in our own catchment of Bronx River/Soundview. With support from YMPJ project staff, each partner will recruit and select 4 community leaders in their catchment who will be a paid data collector for at least 21 months.	Increase the number and capacity of community members who are involved in measuring air quality and advocating for relevant system and policy changes (short term); Establish infrastructure for long-term data collection. (mid term)
Output 2: Provide education and awareness to CBOs and community leaders about the following: (1) air pollution sources, (2) types of air pollutants, (3) importance of air quality monitoring,	Community Leaders and CBO staff will be provided training and education in a number of areas. First, they will be trained by YMPJ's Project Director and Project Assistant on the history of the South Bronx, environmental justice issues in the South Bronx and within specific neighborhoods, and about the Cross Bronx Expressway redesign. HabitMap will conduct two workshops with Community Leaders, working with participants to identify and locate neighborhood air pollution sources, to	Increase the number and capacity of community members involved in measuring air quality and advocating for relevant system and policy changes (short term); Increase community knowledge and understanding of air pollution and environmental injustices (short term); Increase community understanding of harmful effects of air pollutants short term); Community members can educate other residents

and (4) environmental justice issues in the community.	coordinate their monitoring efforts, effectively deploy the monitors, and interpret the measurements.	and government officials about air pollution and environmental injustices, particularly during the study and re-design of the Cross Bronx Exp. (mid term); Increased community citizen-science/advocacy activities (mid term)
Deployment of a stationary air quality placement for and install a stationary monitor to collect air quality data collection near the Cross monitor to community takes action		Increase community's ability to monitor air quality and pollution throughout the year (short term); Community takes action to mitigate certain pollutants. (mid/long term)
Output 4: Identification of particle pollution and hazardous air pollutants in 5 pre-identified catchment areas along the Cross Bronx Expressway in the South Bronx.	20 Community leaders, 4 leaders in each of 5 catchment areas, will conduct data collection using Airbeam3 monitors, along predetermined routes of 45 mins to 1 hour that are traversed 3 times per week at predetermined times. Community Leaders within a catchment area will coordinate with each other in terms of times and days of the week for collection. Each Community Leader will interpret and record measurements. These measurements will then be sent to HabitMap for further interpretation and analysis.	Increased knowledge pollutants found along the Cross Bronx Expressway. (short term); Aggregate and separate the pollutants by each of the 5 pre-identified catchment areas. (short term); Establishment of baseline levels of frequency/severity of pollutants found along the Cross Bronx Expressway; Reduction of certain air pollutants emissions. (long term); Reduction of ambient concentrations of certain pollutant(s) (long term)
Output 5: Community engagement in the civic processes related to redevelopment of the Cross Bronx Expressway	YMPJ project staff will engage Community Leaders in the civic engagement around the RAISE study of the Cross Bronx. They will be invited to present at community meetings, events, and other civic engagement opportunities where they will discuss environmental justice issues in the South Bronx, hazardous air pollutants in the community, their data monitoring work and results, and the Cross Bronx Expressway redevelopment. YMPJ will develop community education materials related to the Cross Bronx.	Increase the number of residents who are involved in advocacy efforts around the Cross Bronx Expressway redevelopment (short term); Increase deep and meaningful community engagement in the Cross Bronx Expressway redesign, including increased #'s of local residents attending visioning meetings and planning sessions with city and state DOT staff (short term)

**B. Performance Measures and Plan:** Below is a list of our outcomes, performance measures, and some of the tools that will be used to track progress of these measures in achieving our targeted outcomes. The YMPJ Project Director, Project Assistant, YMPJ support staff, and the HabitatMap will take the lead in tracking and reporting out on the performance measures.

Outcomes	Measures
1 2	# of residents who apply for Community Leader positions; # of Community Leaders paid during the duration of project; # of Community Leaders and other community members who attend trainings on measuring air quality; # of Community Leaders who attend training on advocating for system/policy change

Establish infrastructure for long-term data collection. (mid term)	By the end of the project, a long-term data collection plan will be drafted that outlines the plans for frequency (years, days, etc.) and number of data collectors needed.			
Increase community knowledge and understanding of air pollution and environmental injustices (short term)	# of training(s) and # of Community Leaders and other			
Increase community understanding of harmful effects of air pollutants (particularly from transportation on the Cross Bronx Expressway) (short term)	residents reached with information about air pollution, environmental injustices, and harmful effects of pollutants			
Community members can educate other residents and government officials about air pollution and environmental injustices (mid term);	# and type of events/meetings where Community Leaders speak and present			
Increased community citizen-science/advocacy activities, thereby increasing BIPOC presence in STEM/STEAM fields (mid term)				
Increase community's ability to monitor air quality throughout the year (short term)	# and type of trainings delivered to the community on how to monitor air quality and pollution			
Community takes action to mitigate certain pollutants. (mid/long term)	# and type of events/actions/meetings that take place where Community Leaders and residents discuss the pollutants affecting their community and necessary action			
Understand what pollutants are found along the Cross Bronx Expressway. (short term);	Pollutants documented in the vicinity of the Cross Bronx Expressway in aggregate and in each of the			
Aggregate and separate the pollutants by each of the 5 pre-identified catchment areas. (short term);	5-pre-catchment areas, Baseline #s with frequency of each pollutant			
Establishment of baseline levels of frequency and severity of the pollutants found along the Cross Bronx Expressway.				
Reduction of certain air pollutants emissions.	Based on the construction and re-development of the			
Reduction of ambient concentrations of certain pollutant(s). (long term)	Cross Bronx Expressway, establish goals with targeted years for reduction of certain pollutants and ambient concentrations.			
Increase the number of residents who are involved in advocacy efforts around the Cross Bronx Expressway redevelopment, to prioritize mitigation of air pollution. (short term);	# and type of events/actions/meetings that take place where Community Leaders and residents discuss air pollution, the pollutants affecting their community and how to take action; # of local residents attending			
Increase community engagement in the Cross Bronx Expressway redesign (short term)	visioning meetings and planning sessions with city and state DOT staff.			

The YMPJ Project Director and Assistant will lead monitoring and evaluation for the trainings and workshops for Community Leaders and residents, and also for any of the advocacy and civic engagement activities in the community, which may include events, meetings, and other activities. This data will be tracked by paper or electronically through sign-in sheets, observational numbers by YMPJ staff, and/or registration forms. Ultimately HabitatMap will be responsible for the collection, monitoring, and analysis of the air pollutant data, working closely with the Community Leaders, who are conducting data collection, and YMPJ project staff. With baseline data and under HabitatMap's lead, YMPJ and partners will work to develop the long-term goals to reduce air pollutants and ambient concentrations.

### C. Timeline and Milestones

TASKS	DETAIL 2		)22		2023				2024	+
	Milestones	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Assemble the on-the-ground air quality monitoring teams for each corridor of the Cross Bronx Expressway. Step One	Hire YMPJ Project Manager and Project Assistant									
	Assemble a 5-person Steering Committee to lead the project.									1
	The Steering Committee puts out a call for South Bronx CBO's to engage in the project									
	The Steering Committee identifies one project partner in each pre-identified catchment area.									
	Staff members at each chosen partner organization work with the Steering Committee to put out calls for Community Leaders (CLs) to collect data within their catchment areas.									
	Project Leaders at each Partner Organization identify 4 Community Leaders for involvement in data collection during the project period. Onboard each CL and pay them stipends.									
Community Leaders at each Partner Organization are trained to collect and interpret air quality data Step Two	YMPJ staff will provide environmental justice training for identified CLs that includes a history of the South Bronx's leadership in redeveloping the Sheridan Expressway and the upcoming study of the Cross Bronx Expressway.									
	HabitatMap conducts a workshop with CLs to locate neighborhood air pollution sources.									
	The Project Steering Committee works with CLs and HabitatMap to install a stationary monitor.									
	HabitatMap will conduct a workshop with Community Leaders where participants learn to coordinate their monitoring efforts, deploy the monitors, and interpret the measurements.									
	YMPJ Project Manager and Assistant Manager work to prepare a quarterly report for the project.									
Community leaders collect air quality data. YMPJ and Project Partners will also build the informational infrastructure required to inform the redesign of the Cross Bronx Expressway.	CLs will record air quality data along predetermined routes of 45 mins to 1 hour that are traversed 3 times per week at predetermined times.									
	Project Leads at Partner Organizations will be available to troubleshoot any data collection/analysis difficulties encountered during the project.									
	The YMPJ Project Manager keeps the CLs involved in the study of the Cross Bronx Expressway.									
	YMPJ Project Manager maintains contact with NYDOT about the Cross Bronx Expressway redesign									
Step Three	YMPJ Project Manager develops advocacy materials about the Cross Bronx Expressway Redesign.									
	YMPJ Project Manager and Assistant Manager prepare a final report for the project.		Thumananan a	T						

### Section 5 - Quality Assurance Statement: Included as a supplement

### <u>Section 6 – Programmatic Capability and Past Performance</u>

**Past Performance**: Department of Youth and Community Development, General Operating (\$50,000 FY20), successfully completed; Department of Youth and Community Development, General Operating (\$40,000 FY20), successfully completed; HRA (\$60,000 in FY19, \$60,000 in FY20), successfully completed; Small Business Administration (\$20,000 in FY19), successfully completed

**Reporting Requirements**: For these contracts, YMPJ met all reporting requirements, with timely reporting on progress towards expected outputs/outcomes. We submitted acceptable final technical reports under all agreements.

C. Staff Expertise: YMPJ has partnered with New York University (NYU) and other CBO's to study air quality in the South Bronx since 2001, participating in the design and collaboration of community-based participatory research projects. In one such study, NYU's mobile laboratory collected samples at eight sites in the South Bronx to measure ground-level pollution concentrations. The results of this and other studies support the assertion that the Bronx's highways, industrial facilities, and truck traffic expose residents to more air pollutants than other New Yorkers. Studies have demonstrated that local and regional air pollution from cars, power plants, construction activity, and other chemical processes are producing high concentrations of O3 (ozone) and PM2.5 (particulate matter) in the South Bronx at levels that exceed U.S. EPA standards. The studies demonstrate a strong link between Bronx zip codes with high asthma rates and those with a large concentration of industrial facilities. YMPJ is concerned that multiple industrial facilities located nearby contribute to the area's poor air quality, as do the three high-traffic highways, creating what is colloquially referred to as "The Toxic Triangle," or "Asthma Alley." YMPJ believes that there is a correlation impacting 20 percent of school-aged children in these areas suffering from asthma — a rate two times the NYC average.

In 2009, YMPJ partnered with researchers at NYU and three other South Bronx community groups to lead a community based asthma study. The research included surveys of truck traffic volumes, air quality monitoring around local schools, and personal monitoring with middle school students via a "backpack study." Overall, the results of this study revealed evidence supporting the assertion that there is an ongoing asthma epidemic among young people in the South Bronx. Findings included: Hourly concentrations of Elemental Carbon—a component of diesel exhaust from trucks—were higher at all South Bronx sites than those at Manhattan sites. In Hunts Point, these concentrations were significantly higher than in other parts of the Bronx; Car exhaust, burning fuels, and heavy industry are producing higher ground-level concentrations of some pollutants, like CO, NO2, and SO2, in the South Bronx as compared to rooftop monitoring station samples. Local and regional air pollution from cars, power plants, construction activity, and other chemical processes are producing high concentrations of O3 and PM2.5 in the South Bronx at levels that sometimes exceed U.S. EPA standards. While urban environments generally contain a presence of NO2 in the air—as a result of many industrial, commercial, and residential sources—samples from the NYU mobile van in the South Bronx were higher than scientists expected.

In 2012, Congressman Jose E. Serrano appropriated \$1 million dollars for the South Bronx Environmental Health and Policy Study (SBEHPS), a five-year asthma study. YMPJ was a coalition member that received funding to include youth in the project. The findings of the SBHEPS support policies outlined in the NYC Waste Management Plan. Specifically, the use of marine transfer stations and rail to transport waste around New York City and to export it out of the city for final disposal would reduce truck traffic, a major source of elemental carbon and other pollutants that affect the health of South Bronx communities. Some of these policies are being implemented, according to the PlaNYC Progress Report 2009, and include integrated land use approaches such as tree planting efforts to address public

health issues such as asthma. Similarly, continued efforts to improve air quality will have important benefits to the South Bronx community. PlaNYC aims to convert boilers to cleaner fuels at over 100 schools in the highest asthma hospitalization areas in the city (EPA Region 2 Citizen Science Workshop-Addressing Pollution through Community and Academic Partnerships, Tuesday, June 19, 2012).

<u>Key Staff</u>: **Executive Director David Shuffler** will oversee all aspects of the proposed work and project staff. David has worked in environmental justice and food vulnerability programs for the past 25 years, and has a deep history in community organizing. He built YMPJ's stewardship program, advocated to transform a concrete plant into Concrete Plant Park, and trained thousands of youth and community residents in air quality monitoring.

A **Project Manager** will be hired within 12 weeks of the grant award. The Program Manager will be the key staff member responsible for coordinating all project activities, including data collection, analysis, coordination with NYDOT staff, and development of all reports/documentation required by EPA as a part of this grant. The Project Manager will implement the interrelationships between staff, the community, and external partners. YMPJ will utilize our partnerships to identify a candidate with the following qualifications: 3-5 years of experience guiding community-led citizen science programs; a bachelor's degree in environmental science or a related field; the ability to engage people to effectively, solve problems, and plan programs and events; demonstrated collaborative skills in working with communities and partners in a wide range of cultural contexts, especially in BIPOC and environmental justice communities. The candidate themself will come from an environmental justice background and have extensive knowledge of the South Bronx.

An **Assistant Project Manager** will be hired within 12 weeks of the grant award. The Assistant Project Manager will be primarily responsible for coordinating with partnering CBO organizations, communicating with Community Leaders, and disseminating project information to the youth and adults YMPJ staff engage with on a regular basis. YMPJ will utilize our partnerships to identify a candidate with the following qualifications: 1-2 years of experience of working with communities on environmental science and environmental justice projects; an associate's degree in environmental science or a related field; the ability to communicate effectively with people of many different backgrounds to spur community engagement and activism. The candidate themselves will come from an environmental justice background and have extensive knowledge of the South Bronx.

<u>Capacity to Manage and Spend Granted Funds</u>: YMPJ has managed City, State, and Federal grants for many years with established methods for financial management and planning, including bi-weekly timesheets for all staff, monthly bank reconciliations, quarterly budget updates and projections that are reviewed by the board of directors, and annual audits. Our staff includes a financial manager that supports staff with all financial records and reporting.

Section 7 - Budget Detail

YMPJ Cross Bronx Expressway Air Quality Monitoring Budget				
Line Item & Itemized Cost Other Funding Sources EPA Fun				
Personnel				
(1) Project Director @ \$70,000/year * 2 years = \$140,000 @ 100% = \$140,000		\$140,000		
(2) Project Assistant @ 40,000/year * 2 years = \$80,000 @ 70% = \$56,000		\$56,000		

TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$196,000
Fringe Benefits	
Fringe @ 25% (includes health insurance, payroll taxes, social security, workers' comp, unemployment)	\$49,000
TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	\$49,000
Supplies	
Printing and Production: Educational/Informational Materials about the Project and to Recruit Community Members to Collect Air Quality Monitoring Data	\$3,400
20 AirBeams (4 Community Partner Orgs * 5 Airbeams per Org = 20 AirBeams) at \$250 per Air Beam = \$5,000	\$5,000
One Stationary Air Quality Monitor	\$15,000
TOTAL SUPPLIES	\$23,400
Other	
Subaward/Partnership Costs - 4 partners @ \$20,000/year*2 years = \$160,000	\$160,000
Habitat Map - train the trainer - train the partner/support organization members/community leaders (receiving stipends through the partnerships) to collect the air quality data - \$10,000* 2 years	\$20,000
YMPJ Community Leader Stipends (4 @\$4,000/year*21 months = \$32,000)	\$32,000
TOTAL OTHER	\$212,000
Indirect Charges	
Federal Indirect Cost Rate x Personnel = Indirect Costs (Federal Indirect Cost Rate = 10%)	\$19,600
TOTAL INDIRECT	\$19,600
TOTAL FUNDING	\$500,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$500,000

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Manifest for Grant Application # GRANT13579984
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Grant Application XML file (total 1):

GrantApplication.xml. (size 20572 bytes)

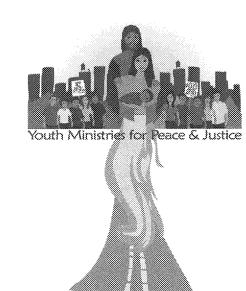
Forms Included in Zip File(total 6):

- 1. Form ProjectNarrativeAttachments 1 2-V1.2.pdf (size 16017 bytes)
- 2. Form SF424 3 0-V3.0.pdf (size 24257 bytes)
- 3. Form SF424A-V1.0.pdf (size 22293 bytes)
- 4. Form EPA4700 4 3 0-V3.0.pdf (size 22630 bytes)
- 5. Form OtherNarrativeAttachments 1 2-V1.2.pdf (size 15908 bytes)
- 6. Form EPA KeyContacts 2 0-V2.0.pdf (size 37396 bytes)

Attachments Included in Zip File (total 6):

- 1. OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments-1235-Quality Assurance Statement.pdf application/pdf (size 31562 bytes)
- 2. OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments-1239-YMPJ\_Community-based Organization Documentation.pdf application/pdf (size 134663 bytes)
- 3. ProjectNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 ProjectNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments-1234-YMPJ EPA Project Narrative.pdf application/pdf (size 148310 bytes)
- 4. OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments-1238-Partnership Letter.pdf application/pdf (size 78505 bytes)
- $\hbox{5. OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments\_1237-IRS Letter of Determination 2021 YMPJ.PDF application/pdf (size 5857945 bytes) } \\$
- 6. OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2 OtherNarrativeAttachments\_1\_2-Attachments-1236-David Shuffler Resume.pdf application/pdf (size 73936 bytes)

RE: Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice Tax Exemption Cover letter



To whom it may concern,

Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice is part of the IRS group tax exemption of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. If you read the attached IRS Letter of Determination, you will notice that in paragraph two of this letter that each subordinate organization of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops is indeed a non-profit organization and exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code under our Group Exemption Number 0928. I have also attached page #965 of the Official Catholic Directory (Kennedy Directory) which provides evidence of our inclusion as a member of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. YMPJ has maintained tax-exempt status as a subordinate organization of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops since 1992. We are not included in the GuideStar database of non-profit organizations because our group exemption status prevents us from filing an IRS Form 990 as an individual organization.

If you have additional questions that are not answered by this letter or the attached materials, please feel free to contact me at 718.328.5622.

Thank you,

David Shuffler
Executive Director



Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New York 1011 First Avenue New York, NY 10022 646,794,2439 www.catholiccharitiesny.org

February 26, 2021

David Shuffler
Executive Director
Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice
1384 Stratford Avenue
Bronx, NY 10472

Dear Executive Director David Shuffler,

Enclosed is the 2020 Group Ruling issued by the IRS for all organizations listed in the Official Catholic Directory (Kennedy Directory). Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice is located on page #965 of the directory.

The information supplied is needed to verify your tax-exempt status as a Catholic Agency. I ask that you review the information provided and notify me of any changes that you would like made to your agency's listing. These changes will be reflected in the supplementary addition of the Official Catholic Directory in mid-2021.

Please Note: You will also receive a form from the Official Catholic Directory publisher asking you for changes to your listing. That form should be completed and return to my attention not Sr. Eileen Clifford.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or need my assistance with this or any other matters.

Sincerely.

Christina Perez Agency Relations Manager

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America Atlanton Cadrenach, Inc., 420 B. 156th St., Stone, 10456, Tel: 718-402-8285;

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\*\*\* New York Christian Life Communities, Inc., when Univ., Maurese Hause, 2540 Hughes & Bronx, 10460 Tel. 718-817-5344;

\*\*\* The \$17-5004; Email: meironydefiyabon.com;

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The Mission Center, Inc. (1971) 740 Manida St., on. 10474 Tel: 712 821, 5034.
T18-861-9196; Email: info@eia-nativity.org:
Www.sio-nativity.org: Eavan O'Drissoil, Pres.
Contact Person
Soft Padre Pio Sheiser Corporation, 427 E., 45, Brunn, 18455, Tel: 718-292-3713;
T18-92-28997, Rev. Bonaventure Remmell, Dir. WR., Dir.

Sense Thorps, HDFC, 408 E 1841 St., Brons, 88. Tel 718-295-2530, Fre 718-295-2558.

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Ave., 1900at, 1981 1 1000, 161 11 10 00 2000 1 Pax. 718-884-30115, Email: emprovidence, org: Web www.scoy.org. Sr. Silven Medicary. "Todoutine Zeiser Community Life Center, Inc., 2345 University Ave., Broax, 10402. Tel. 718-933-5935, Pax. 718-738-1653.

Yeath Ministrus for Peace & Justice Inc. (1994) 1394 Stratford Ave., Brunz, 10472 Tel: 718-828-6622; Fax: 718-928-8620;

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Hartsdale, 10590, Tel: 914-780-6900;
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Far. 1914 750-41180; gris survey, and far. Far. 1914 750-41180; Emeil addrevar@marianweede.org Sc. Albert Donovan, O.P., Esse. Dir. Mercy Education Support Fund, Inc., 150 Ridge Rd., Bartsdale, 1030. Tel. 718-882-2853 Rst. 128; Fax. 718-231-8080; Email: srprioi@epicolline.ust. Sr. Patricis Wolf, R.S. M., Pres. & Contact Person. Haventraw, 10527-1198. Tel. 845-842-2757; Fax. 745-425-8144; Email: hwacker#@epicat.org; Wish www.faynet.org. Sisters Dorothy Devoung, Contact Person; Helen Wacker, F.S.P., Congregation Min. Religious Congregation. Sisters of St. Francis of Peace! Cordunal Manor, NY Congregation Center, Haventrue, NY. Ladycliff College Aluminae Association, Inc., of Francisco, Sisters af Peace, 20 Ridge St., Haverstraw, 10827-1198. Tel. 814-446-2870; Tel. 914-446-5821.

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Hawthorne, 10532. Tai: 914-769-9114:
Fac: 914-769-0827. Email: amjoseph@gmail.com;
Web: www.hawthorne-dominicans.org. Mother

West wew hawdrome-dominions org mother Mary Francis, O.P., Pres. & Contact Person. Humington Mills, Theorems Membesser School. (Grades PreK. 1), M. Bethsay Dr., Highland Mills, 19980. Tel: 846-928-6381; Fex. 845-928-3179;

Tel: 846.828.6381; Far: 846.828.3178; Email: thevenet0280ptimum.net. Sr. Juan Paraone, R.J.M., Dr. Religious of demas and Mary Lay Teachers 10; Studenic 110.

HYDE PARK Foodare Movement. (Women's Branch) - National Center (1943) 300 Cardinal Rd., Hyde Park, 18898. Tel: 848-289-4030;

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Ann Dies, Die Living City of the Foodure Movement, Inc., 302 Comferter Elvd., Hyde Fark, 12532 Tel: 853-228-0448, Fax: 845-220-1770; Email: livingeity ed®livingeitymagesine cum; Web: www.livingeitymagazine.com. Susnape Jansea, Editor. New City Prins of the Foodure Movement, Inc., 302

Conferent Sive., Hyde Park, 12598.

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Lascinsort American Compassion Services, Inc., 280 Weaver St., Larchmont, 10538. Tel: 484-615-3824, Fax: 610-482-4982;

Email: dishimd@idescousa.org. Rocemary Leb-load, Exec. Dir.

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Childhood Music Program. Young adults: volunteer staff of after-school program and camp.
Spiritual Deceleptions Office, 1 Pryer Manor Rd.,
Larchment, 19536, Tal. 514-255-4958, Rev. Bugene
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LIVEOSTON MANOR. The Monastic Family of Bethlehem (1987) 399 Cur Lady of Lourdes Camp Sd., Livingston Menor, 12758, Tek 845-429-4300 Fax: 845-459-3669, Email: olbeatitude@gmail.com 8r: 8meas Figeat, M.S.B.A.V., Prioress.

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Maryknodi Fathers and Brothers Anostolic Trust, P.O. Bus 306, Maryknodi, 19545-9306.
Tol: 914-941-7590; Faz. 914-944-3628. Hev. Edward J. Paillipe, M.M., CM.
Maryknodi Mission Association of the Foithful dis Maryknodi Missions Association of the Foithful dis Maryknodi, Lay Missioners (1994) P.O. Box 307, Maryknodi, 19545-9307. Tel: 914-762-6364; Fax. 914-944-3576. Email: Inid@talkim.acg.
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Fas: \$14-944-3676 Email; sondenthm.org;
Web: www.mkin.org. Marj Humphrey, Dir. Missions; Fed Miles, Emei. Purpose: Maryknoil Lay Missioners Giffi.40 is a Catholic organization, comprising single men and women, complex and families, inspired by the mission of Jeans to live and work with poor communities in Africa, Asia and the Americas, responding to basic needs and halping to reade a more just and compassionally world MKLM applies skills and knowledge, reis-ing the quality at life, and restoring hope, by mak-lag leading improvements in the areas of justice and peace, education, leadin, pastoral sare and majorable development. MKLM recruits, builts and financially supports its missioners solely by

vaible donation. Legal Nume: Maryknelf Missien Association of the Faithful

caungui Marykaell Lay Missioners Foundation, P.O. Bux 207, Marykaell, 10845-0507, Tel: 314-762-6364, Fax: 914-762-7631; Email: mboyle@mklm.org. Meit Boyle, Liaison.

Marykauli Missimary Education Trust, P.O. Box 306, Marykauli, 19545. Tel: 914-941-7590;

306. Meryknell, 19545. Teb 914-951-7549;
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Robert M. Campagna, O.F.M., Prov. Ma. Modeline
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Conception Francisco (1961) 274-280 W. Francisco Mission Associates (1961) 274-280 W. Lincoln Ave., P.O. Box 398, Mount Vernon, 19680. Tel: 914-684-5804, Fax: 914-684-3017;

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Emeil: jeanne@ssleeiaamiessons.org

# Internal Revenue Service P.O. Box 2508 Cincinnati, OH 45201

Department of the Treasury

Date: November 2, 2020

Person to Contact:
R. Meyer ID# 0110429
Toll Free Telephone Number:

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops 3211 4th Street, NE Washington, DC 20017-1194 rree relepitone **sumbe**: 877-829-5500

**Group Exemption Number:** 0928

Dear Sir/Madam:

This responds to your July 23, 2020, request for information regarding the status of your group tax exemption.

Our records indicate that you were issued a determination letter in March 1946, that you are currently exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(i).

With your request, you provided a copy of the Official Catholic Directory for 2020, which includes the names and addresses of the agencies and instrumentalities and the educational, charitable, and religious institutions operated by the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories, and possessions that are subordinate organizations under your group tax exemption. Your request indicated that each subordinate organization is a non-profit organization, that no part of the net earnings thereof inures to the benefit of any individual, and that no substantial part of their activities is for promotion of legislation. You have further represented that none of your subordinate organizations is a private foundation under section 509(a), although all subordinates do not all share the same sub-classification under section 509(a). Based on your representations, the subordinate organizations in the Official Catholic Directory for 2020 are recognized as exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code under GEN 0928.

Donors may deduct contributions to you and your subordinate organizations as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to them or for their use are deductible for federal estate and gifts tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of section 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Subordinate organizations under a group exemption do not receive individual exemption letters. Subordinate organizations are not listed in Tax Exempt Organization Search (Pub 78 data), and many are not listed in the Exempt Organizations Business Master

File extract, or EO BMF. Donors may verify that a subordinate organization is included in your group exemption by consulting the *Official Catholic Directory*, the official subordinate listing approved by you, or by contacting you directly. IRS does not verify the inclusion of subordinate organizations under your group exemption. See IRS Publication 4573, *Group Exemption*, for additional information about group exemptions.

Each subordinate organization covered in a group exemption should have its own EIN. Each subordinate organization must use its own EIN, not the EIN of the central organization, in all filings with IRS.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin

Director, Exempt Organizations

stephen a martin

Rulings and Agreements



# Office of the General Counsel

3211 FOURTH STREET, NE · WASHINGTON, DC 20017-1194 · 202-541-3300 · FAX 202-541-3337

November 19, 2020

TO:

Subordinate Organizations under USCCB Group Ruling (GEN: 0928)

SUBJECT:

2020 Group Ruling

FROM:

Anthony Picarello, General Counsel /

Madeline Obler, Assistant General Counsel

This memorandum relates to the annual Group Ruling determination letter issued to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ("USCCB") by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), the most recent of which is dated November 2, 2020, with respect to the federal tax status of subordinate organizations listed in the 2020 edition of the Official Catholic Directory ("OCD"). As explained in greater detail below, this 2020 Group Ruling determination letter is important for establishing:

- (1) exemption of subordinate organizations under the USCCB Group Ruling from federal income tax: and
- (2) deductibility of contributions to such organizations for federal income, gift, and estate tax purposes.

The 2020 Group Ruling determination letter is the latest in a series that began with the original determination letter of March 25, 1946. In the original 1946 letter, the Treasury Department affirmed the exemption from federal income tax of all Catholic institutions listed in the OCD for that year. Each year since 1946, in a separate letter, the 1946 ruling has been reaffirmed with respect to subordinate organizations listed in the current edition of the OCD.<sup>2</sup> The annual group ruling letter clarifies important tax consequences for Catholic institutions listed in the OCD, and should be retained for ready reference. Group Ruling letters from prior years establish tax consequences with respect to transactions occurring during those years.

UBIT on Fringe Benefits. Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Relief Act of 2019, Public Law 116-94, enacted in December 2019, repealed section 512(a)(7) to the Internal Revenue Code ("Code"), which subjected tax-exempt organizations to unrelated business income tax ("UBIT") to the extent they pay or incur expenses for any qualified transportation fringe described in section 132(f) and any parking facility used in connection with qualified parking (the "parking

A copy of the most recent Group Ruling determination letter and this memo may be found on the General Counsel's "Tax and Group Ruling" page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Catholic organizations with independent IRS exemption determination letters are listed in the 2020 OCD with an asterisk (\*), which indicates that such organizations are **not** included in the Group Ruling.

lot tax"). As the repeal was retroactive to the date of enactment, exempt organizations can request refunds of amounts paid in tax years 2018 and 2019 toward the parking lot tax. Exempt organizations seeking refunds for amounts paid in 2018 may file an amended Form 990-T, and exempt organizations seeking a refund for estimated taxes paid toward the parking lot tax in 2019 are advised to file Form 4466, Corporation Application for Quick Refund of Overpayment of Estimated Tax, to receive a refund of amounts paid toward 2019.

<u>Responsibilities under Group Ruling</u>. Diocesan officials who compile OCD information for submission to the OCD publisher are responsible for the accuracy of such information. They must ensure that only qualified organizations are listed, that organizations are listed under their correct legal names, that organizations that cease to qualify are deleted promptly, and that newly-qualified organizations are listed as soon as possible.

#### **EXPLANATION**

1. Exemption from Federal Income Tax. The latest Group Ruling determination letter reaffirms that the agencies and instrumentalities and educational, charitable, and religious institutions operated, supervised or controlled by or in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories or possessions that appear in the 2020 OCD and are subordinate organizations under the Group Ruling are recognized as exempt from federal income tax and described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code. The Group Ruling determination letter does not cover organizations listed with asterisks or any foreign organizations listed in the 2020 OCD.

Verification of Exemption under Group Ruling. The latest Group Ruling determination letter indicates that subordinate organizations are not listed in Tax Exempt Organization Search (Pub. 78 data) ("TEOS," formerly "EO Select Check), and many are not listed in the Exempt Organizations Business Master File extract, or EO BMF. As a result, many subordinate organizations included in the USCCB Group Ruling are not included in various online databases (e.g., GuideStar) that are derived from the EO BMF. This does not mean that subordinate organizations included in the Group Ruling are not tax exempt, that contributions to them are not deductible, or that they are not eligible for grant funding from corporations, private foundations, sponsors of donor-advised funds or other donors that rely on online databases for verification of tax-exempt status. It does mean that a Group Ruling subordinate may have to make an extra effort to document its eligibility to receive charitable contributions. The Group Ruling determination letter states that donors may verify that a subordinate organization is included in the Group Ruling by consulting the Official Catholic Directory or by contacting the USCCB directly. It also states that the IRS does not verify inclusion of subordinate organizations under the Group Ruling. Accordingly, neither subordinate organizations nor donors should contact the IRS to verify inclusion under the Group Ruling.

Subordinate organizations should refer donors, including corporations, private foundations, and sponsors of donor-advised funds, to the specific language in the Group Ruling determination letter regarding verification of tax-exempt status and to IRS Publication 4573,

Group Exemptions, available on the IRS website at <a href="www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a>. Publication 4573 explains that: (1) the IRS does not determine which organizations are included in a group exemption; (2) subordinate organizations exempt under a group exemption do not receive their own IRS determination letters; (3) exemption under a group ruling is verified by reference to the official subordinate listing (e.g., the Official Catholic Directory); and (4) it is not necessary for an organization included in a group exemption to be listed in TEOS or the EO BMF. Although not required, organizations in the Group Ruling may be included in the EO BMF, and consequently, online databases derived from it.

2. Public Charity Status. The latest Group Ruling determination letter recognizes that subordinate organizations included in the 2020 OCD are public charities and not private foundations under section 509(a) of the Code, but that all subordinate organizations do not share the same public charity status under section 509(a). Therefore, although the USCCB is classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(i), that public charity status does not automatically extend to subordinate organizations covered under the Group Ruling.

<u>Verification of Public Charity Status</u>. Each subordinate organization in the Group Ruling must establish its own public charity status under section 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) as a condition to inclusion in the Group Ruling. Certain types of subordinate organizations included in the Group Ruling qualify as public charities by definition under the Code. These are:

- churches and conventions or associations of churches under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(i) (generally limited to dioceses, parishes and religious orders);
- elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii); and
- hospitals under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).

Other subordinate organizations covered under the Group Ruling may qualify under the public support tests of either sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) or section 509(a)(2). Verification of public charity classification under either of the support tests generally can be established by providing a written declaration of the applicable classification signed by an officer of the organization, along with a reasoned written opinion of counsel and a copy of Schedule A of Form 990/EZ, if applicable. Large institutional donors, such as private foundations and sponsors of donor-advised funds, may require this verification prior to making a contribution or grant to be assured that the grantee is not a Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization. A subordinate organization included in the Group Ruling may want to file Form 8940, Request for Miscellaneous Determination, with the IRS to request a determination that it is a publicly supported charity described in sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) or section

<sup>4</sup> See Notice 2014-4, 2014-2 LR.B (January 6; 2014).

For an illustration of how exemption verification works, refer to the "Information for Donors and Grantmakers" link on the USCCB website "Tax and Group Ruling." page.

509(a)(2), or is a Type I or II supporting organization, in order to satisfy private foundations and sponsors of donor-advised funds regarding its public charity status.

- Deductibility of Contributions. The latest Group Ruling determination letter assures donors that contributions to subordinate organizations listed in the 2020 OCD are deductible for federal income, gift, and estate tax purposes.
- Unemployment Tax. As section 501(c)(3) organizations, subordinate organizations covered by the Group Ruling are exempt from federal unemployment tax. However, individual states may impose unemployment tax on subordinate organizations even though they are exempt from federal unemployment tax. Please consult a local tax advisor about any state unemployment tax questions.
- Social Security Tax. All section 501(c)(3) organizations, including churches, are required to withhold and pay taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) for each employee. 5 However, services performed by diocesan priests in the exercise of their ministry are not considered "employment" for FICA (Social Security) purposes. FICA should not be withheld from their salaries. For Social Security purposes, diocesan priests are subject to self-employment tax ("SECA") on their salaries as well as on the value of meals and housing or housing allowances provided to them.7 Neither FICA nor income tax withholding is required on remuneration paid directly to religious institutes for members who are subject to vows of poverty and obedience and are employed by organizations included in the Official Catholic Directory.8
- Federal Excise Tax. Inclusion in the Group Ruling has no effect on a subordinate organization's liability for federal excise taxes. Exemption from these taxes is very limited. Please consult a local tax advisor about any excise tax questions.
- State/Local Taxes. Inclusion in the Group Ruling does not automatically establish a subordinate organization's exemption from state or local income, sales, or property taxes. Typically, separate exemptions must be obtained from the appropriate state or local tax authorities in order to qualify for any applicable exemptions. Please consult a local tax advisor about any state or local tax exemption questions.
- Form 990/EZ/N. All subordinate organizations included in the Group Ruling must file Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, Form 990-EZ, Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax, or Form 990-N. e-Postcard, unless they

Section 3121(w) of the Code permits certain church-related organizations to make an irrevocable election to avoid payment of FICA taxes, but only if such organizations are opposed for religious reasons to payment of social security-taxes.

\* I.R.C. § 3.121(b)(8)(A).

<sup>8</sup> Rev. Rist. 77-290; 1977-2 C.B. 26. See also OGC/LRCR Memorandum on Compensation of Religious, (Septémber 11, 2006).

are eligible for a mandatory or discretionary exception to this filing requirement. There is no automatic exemption from the Form 990/EZ/N filing requirement simply because an organization is included in the Group Ruling or listed in the OCD. Subordinate organizations must use their own EIN to file Form 990/EZ/N. Do not use the EIN of the USCCB or an affiliated parish, diocese or other organization to file a return. Form 990/EZ/N is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of an organization's fiscal year. The following organizations are not required to file Form 990/EZ/N: (i) churches and conventions or associations of churches: (ii) integrated auxiliaries; (iii) the exclusively religious activities of religious orders; and (iv) schools below college level affiliated with a church or operated by a religious order. Organizations should exercise caution if they choose not to file a Form 990/EZ/N because they believe they are not required to do so. If IRS records indicate that the organization should file a Form 990/EZ/N each year (for example, the organization may appear on the auto-revocation list notwithstanding its claim to being exempt from the filing requirement.

Which form an organization is required to file usually depends on the organization's gross receipts or the fair market value of its assets.

Gross receipts or fair market value of asset	s Return required
Gross receipts normally not more than \$50,000 (regardless of total assets)	990-N (but may file a Form 990 or 990-EZ)
Gross receipts < \$200,000, and Total assets < \$500,000	990-EZ (but may file a Form 990)
Gross receipts $\geq$ \$200,000, $\sigma r$ Total assets $\geq$ \$500,000	990

Special Rules for Section 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations. Every supporting organization described in section 509(a)(3) included in the Group Ruling must file a Form 990 or Form 990-EZ (and not Form 990-N) each year, unless (i) the organization can establish that it is an integrated auxiliary of a church within the meaning of Treas. Reg. § 1.6033-2(h) (in which case the organization need not file Form 990/EZ or Form 990-N); or (ii) the organization's gross receipts are normally not more than \$5,000, in which case, the religious supporting organization

The penalty for failure to file the Form 990/EZ is \$20 for each day the failure continues, up to a maximum of \$10,000 or 5 percent of the organization's gross receipts, whichever is less. However, organizations with annual gross receipts in excess of \$1 million are subject to penalties of \$100 per day, up to a maximum of \$50,000. I.R.C. § 6652(c)(1)(A). There is no monetary penalty for failing to file or filing late a Form 990-N.

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$  LR, C, § 6033(a)(3)(A)(i); Treas. Reg. § 1.6033-2(h).

<sup>11</sup> Treas, Reg. § 1.6033-2(g)(1)(vii).

may file Form 990-N in lieu of a Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Automatic Revocation for Failure to File a Required Form 990/EZ/N. Any organization that does not file a required Form 990/EZ/N for three consecutive years automatically loses its tax-exempt status under section 6033(j). If an organization loses its tax-exempt status under section 6033(j), it must file an application (Form 1023 or Form 1023-EZ) with the IRS to reinstate its tax-exempt status. See the IRS website (charities and non-profits) at www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits / for information on automatic revocation, including the current list of revoked organizations and guidance about reinstatement of exemption.

Public Disclosure and Inspection. Subordinate organizations required to file Form 990/EZ<sup>12</sup> must upon request make a copy of the form and its schedules (other than contributor lists) and attachments available for public inspection during regular business hours at the organization's principal office and at any regional or district offices having three or more employees. Form 990/EZ for a particular year must be made available for a three year period beginning with the due date of the return. In addition, any organization that files Form 990/EZ must comply with written or in-person requests for copies of the form. The organization may impose no fees other than a reasonable fee to cover copying and mailing costs. If requested, copies of the forms for the past three years must be provided. In-person requests must be satisfied on the same day. Written requests must be satisfied within 30 days. In

<u>Public Disclosure of Form 990-T.</u> Form 990-T, Exempt Organization Unrelated Business Income Tax Return, for organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) (which includes all organizations in the USCCB Group Ruling) is subject to rules similar to those for public inspection and copying of Forms 990/EZ. <sup>15</sup>

Group Returns. USCCB does not file a group return Form 990 on behalf of any organizations in the Group Ruling. In addition, no subordinate organization under the Group Ruling is authorized to file a group return for its own affiliated group of organizations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Form 990-N is available for public inspection at no cost through the IRS website at <a href="https://www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a>.

The penalty for failure to permit public inspection of the Form 990 is \$20 for each day during which such failure continues, up to a maximum of \$10,000. I.R.C. § 6652(c)(1)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> LR.C. § 6104(d). Generally, a copy of an organization's exemption application and supporting documents must also be provided on the same basis. However, since organizations included in the Group Ruling do not file exemption applications with the IRS, nor did the USCCB, organizations included in the Group Ruling should respond to requests for public inspection and written or in-person requests for copies by providing a copy of the page of the current OCD on which they are listed. If a covered organization does not have a copy of the current OCD, it has two weeks within which to make it available for inspection and to comply with in-person requests for copies. Written requests must be satisfied within the general time limits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Only the Form 990-T itself, and any schedules, attachments, and supporting documents that relate to the imposition of tax on the unrelated business income of the organization, are required to be made available for public inspection.

For more information, refer to Annual Filing Requirements for Catholic Organizations.

- Certification of Racial Nondiscrimination by Private Schools in Group Ruling. Revenue Procedure 75-5016 sets forth notice, publication, 17 and record keeping requirements regarding racially nondiscriminatory policies with which private schools, including church-related schools, must comply as a condition of establishing and maintaining exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Code. Under Rev. Proc. 75-50 private schools are required to file an annual certification of racial nondiscrimination with the IRS. For private schools not required to file Form 990, the annual certification must be filed on Form 5578, Annual Certification of Racial Nondiscrimination for a Private School Exempt from Federal Income Tax. This form is available at www.irs.gov. Form 5578 must be filed by the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of the fiscal year. Form 5578 may be filed by an individual school or by the diocese on behalf of all schools operated under diocesan auspices. The requirements of Rev. Proc. 75-50 remain in effect and must be complied with by all schools listed in the OCD. Diocesan or school officials should ensure that the requirements of Rev. Proc. 75-50 are met since failure to do so could jeopardize the tax-exempt status of the school and, in the case of a school not legally separate from the church, the tax-exempt status of the church itself. For more information, refer to Annual Filing Requirements for Catholic Organizations.
- Lobbying Activities. Subordinate organizations under the Group Ruling may lobby for changes in the law, provided such lobbying is not more than an insubstantial part of their total activities. Attempts to influence legislation both directly and through grassroots lobbying at the federal, state, or local levels are subject to this restriction. The term "lobbying" includes activities in support of or in opposition to referenda, constitutional amendments, and similar ballot initiatives. There is no distinction between lobbying activity that is related to a subordinate organization's exempt purposes and lobbying that is not. There is no fixed percentage that constitutes a safe harbor for "insubstantial" lobbying. Please consult a local tax advisor about any lobbying activity questions. For more information, refer to Political Activity and Lobby Guidelines for Catholic Organizations.
  - 11. Political Activities. Subordinate organizations under the Group Ruling may not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any

<sup># 1975-2</sup> C.B. 587.

<sup>17</sup> Revenue Procedure 2019-22, 2019-22 LR.B. 1260, revised Revenue Procedure 75-50 to include a third method by which a private school may make its racially nondiscriminatory policy known to all segments of the general community the school serves. The school may now display a notice of its racially nondiscriminatory policy on its primary publicly accessible Internet homepage at all times during the tax year (excluding temporary outages due to website maintenance or technical problems) in a manner reasonably expected to be noticed by visitors to the homepage.

candidate for public office. Violation of the prohibition against political campaign intervention can jeopardize the organization's tax-exempt status. In addition to revoking tax-exempt status, IRS may also impose excise taxes on an exempt organization and its managers on account of political expenditures. Please consult a local tax advisor about any political campaign intervention questions. For more information, refer to Political Activity and Lobby Guidelines for Catholic Organizations.

- assigned to the USCCB Group Ruling is 0928. This number must be included on each Form 990/EZ, Form 990-T, and Form 5578 required to be filed by a subordinate organization under the Group Ruling. We advise against using GEN 0928 on Form SS-4, Request for Employer Identification Number, because in the past this has resulted in the IRS improperly including the USCCB as part of the subordinate organization's name in IRS records.
- 13. Employer Identification Numbers ("EINs"). Each subordinate organization under the Group Ruling must have and use its own EIN. Do not use the EIN of the USCCB or an affiliated parish, diocese, or other organization in any filings with IRS (e.g., Forms 941, W-2, 1099, or 990/EZ) or other financial documents. Subordinate organizations may not use USCCB's EIN in order to qualify for online donations, grants or matching gifts,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> The IRS has expressed concern about organizations covered under the Group Ruling that fail to include the group exemption number (0928) on their Form 990/EZ/T filings, particularly the initial filing.